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HERE'S THE 5TH VOLUME OF THE MANGA: KAGE TORA
FOR THE FANS BY A FAN.
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PAGES HAVE BEEN CROPPED TO GET RID OF THE GUTTER,
BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
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YOURSELVES AND ENJOY YOUR OWN VERSION..
ANYHOW ENJOY!

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EMO FOOL NOW OWES ME PORN :P
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I FORGET WHEN I DID THEM :D
PLUS IT SHOWS, HOW LONG BEFORE YOU
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TILL NEXT TIME, ENJOY!

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KAGE TORA

5

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KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Akira Segami

TRANSLATED BY
Satsuki Yamashita

ADAPTED BY
Nunzio DeFilippis & Christina Weir

LETTERED BY
Janice Chiang

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KAGETORA

A Note from the Author

Lately, I've been pretty busy. I guess I'm not good at time management. But I think what causes it the most is my personality...I don't plan ahead. (laugh)

Segami

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), or as a title at the end of one's name or in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san." It is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men amongst friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

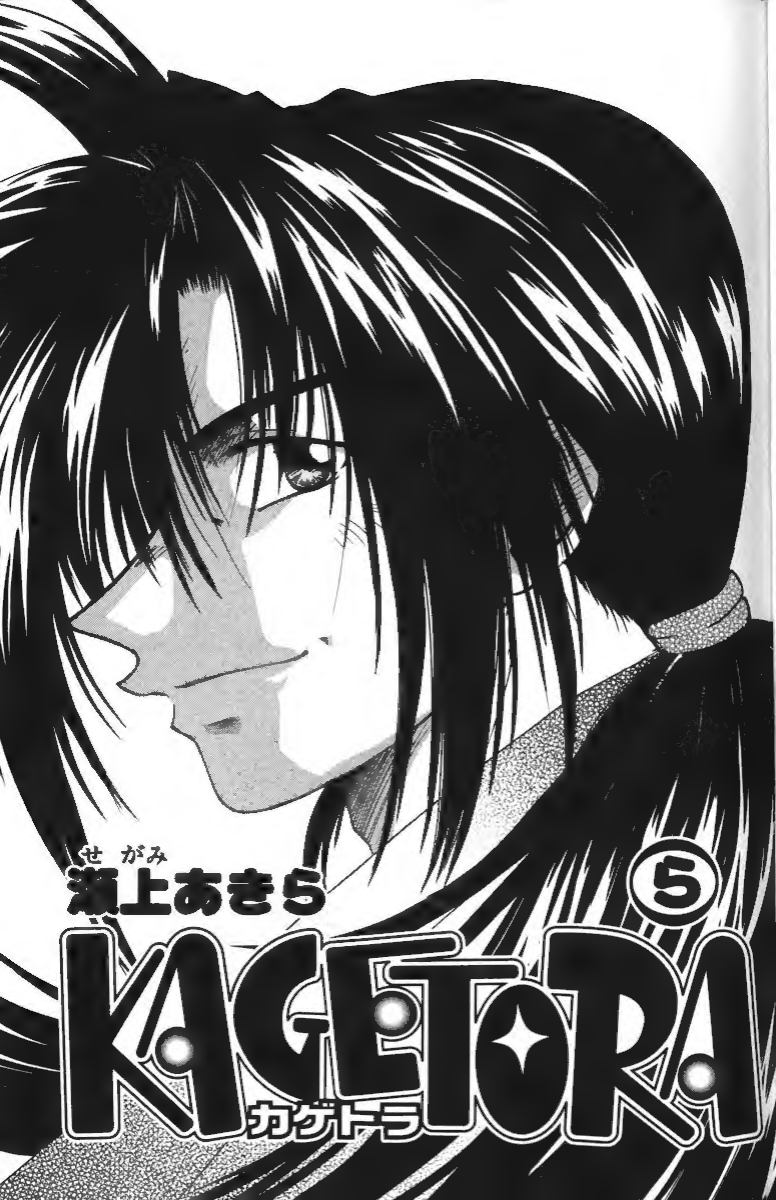
Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" or "squirt."

Sempai/
Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as yobisute, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.


瀬上あきら
⑤
KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Hm...
#21 Rival Wolf
Right, Kosuke?
TURN
Oh.
It looks like it might snow tonight.
I'm glad it's Saturday.
What brings you here all of a sudden?
Although you always come "all of a sudden."
Yeah... I wanted to ask you a favor.
How are you doing, Kagetora?
SMIRK
I knew it was you, Brother Shirou...
Yo.
Nachi!? Then that means...
GROAN
ZWISH

I'm sorry it's so last minute...
But can you watch him for a couple of days?
ひょい
LIFT
Huh?
He's a ninja wolf in training.
His name is Ren.
Doesn't he look smart?
So there you go!
I'LL TAKE MICHI
There I go what?
BROTHER
I brought him along to get him used to the city, but now I have an emergency duty to take care of.
I can't take him with me.
ﾌﾘｰｽﾞ
FREEZE
How much training does this wolf have?
がぶっ
BITE

Ow ow ow ow ow!!
Oh...he has a habit of biting.
Sorry.
He doesn't bite me though.
HANG
Please take care of him!
HEY!
JUMP
He's not trained at all!
LET ME GO!
That's why he's in training.
SWING
SWING
I guess there's no escape.
Maybe he has a little bit of training... let's see.
Ren, handshake!
WOOF!
You're a little show-off, aren't you?
Footshake?
TAP
TAP

Hime.
Was that Shirou-san?
He dashed away
Kagetora...
TURN
Wow
A puppy!?
Can I hold him?
Hime! Be careful!
LIFT
Where'd you get him?
It's a ninja wolf I got from Brother.

He's so cute. ♡
He seems to be fine...
Hee hee, that tickles!
Huh?
What's his name?
It's Ren.
Ren-chan, huh? You're so cute.
Maybe he bit me because I was being too cautious.
Ren, handshake one more time.
Sniff!

Urgh...
Are you okay?
DUSTY
DUSTY
DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
Am I lower than a ninja wolf?
...is not treating me with respect!!
SHOCK
Wamp
SNEAKY
Ren-chan, you can't do that.
No more digging.
.....
CLANG
This wolf...
It's snow.
It's finally here.
Wow, you're right.
Well, it is cold today.
FALL

He can't be out here in the cold.
With the snow.
He's so small.
Huh!?
Sleeping together!?
Then you want to sleep with me tonight, Ren-chan?
TURN
OVERREACTING
He's so tame when he's with Hime...
Umrgh...
Right, Ren-chan?
I'm not!!
YOU'RE GETTING JEALOUS OVER A WOLF?
Woof!
I'm not, but...

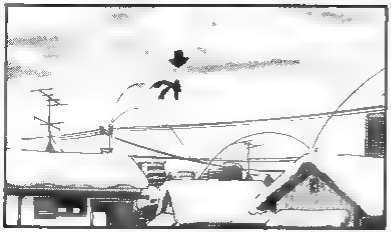
It's over here!
Woof
Woof
A CAT OR FOR A WOLF
You're so fluffy.
HEE HEE HEE
Eat up, okay?
MUNCH
MUNCH
Hime looks like she's having fun. More than when she's with me.
And she's playing with the wolf nonstop.
PEOPLE CALL THIS JEALOUSY.
KYE
UNHAPPY
Hey...
Sure.
Let's take a walk tomorrow.
Okay, Kagetora, good night!
REN-CHAN, HAVE GOOD NIGHT, TOO.

Wow, it looks like a storm is coming.
It's so cold.
We might get a lot of snow tonight.
WHOOO
Ren is in the main house and I'm in a separate house.
It's kind of sad.
We'll play more tomorrow.
Woof!
Ren-chan.
I've never slept with a puppy before.
Oh, it's a wolf.
It's kind of fun.
Hee hee.
キュッ
SQUEEZE
ころん
TURN

Woof!
Good night, Ren-chan.
The next day
Whoa...
That's pretty deep.
It looks like a walk is impossible.

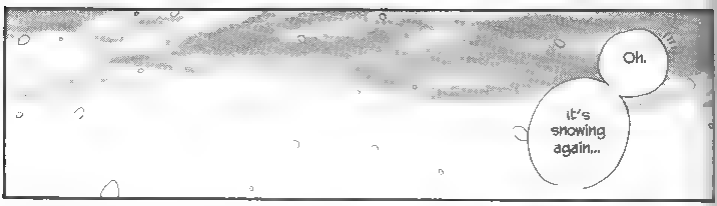
Kagetora.
I didn't know it snowed this much in Tokyo.
UM... I THINK THIS IS UNUSUAL FOR TOKYO.
IT'S LIKE IN THE VILLAGE...
Maybe I should clear the snow around the house.
KYE!
What's wrong?
Ren-chan is nowhere to be seen!
What should I do?
PAW? PAW? PAW?
Hime...
Maybe he got loose...
Ren?
I was letting him play in the yard, but now he's gone.

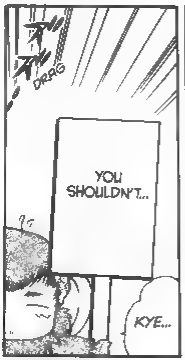
You don't have to panic.
He's young but he's still a ninja wolf. He should've memorized this place.
But this snow...
He might get lost.
Even with the snow, I think he can find his way back if it's only this much.
Kagetora, do you not like Ren-chan?
just as he was praised.
No, it's not that...
But you're being so harsh!
And you guys don't get along...
SOB
Ren-chan's still so small...
Oh no, I made her cry!
Snoot
Um, I'll go look for him!



I wonder if he'll be okay...
DON'T WORRY.
KYE

Hime, you should wait in the house.
It's dangerous.
Oh.
Kosuke! Take care of Hime.

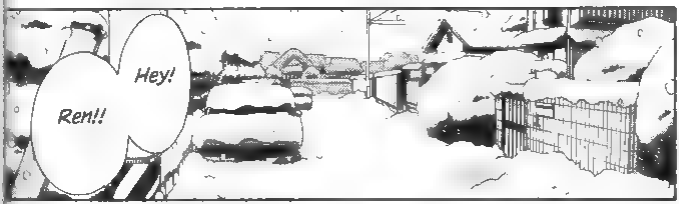

Oh.
It's snowing again...


DRAG
YOU SHOULDN'T...
KYE...

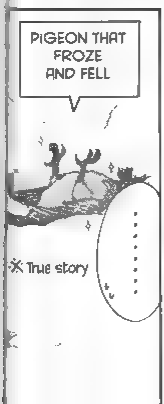
I think I'll go look for him, too!
スッ!
STAND!
KYE!?

I wonder if Ren-chan's okay.
He might be freezing right now...

KYE...
HEL
DROP
DROP
KIKI!


Hey!
Ren!!

But...
GLANCE
Geez...he's such a troublemaker.


PIGEON THAT FROZE AND FELL
※True story

Don't sleep! If you sleep, you'll die!
Hakkouda?
SLAP
HUH?

Stuck waiting for the train to leave
The train will not leave for a while.
NOOOOO

DROP
DROP
DROP
VISIBILITY ZERO
I wonder if this is really Tokyo...
I can't see anything...
Ono...
Huh? Kagetora? What are you doing in this snow storm?
What are you doing?
Me?
Can't you tell? I'm working.
No... I can't tell.
WEARING SKIS
Oh yeah.
Have you seen Ren?
They're probably ordering in because of the weather...
I want to kill people who order pizza in this weather...
I can't use my bike.

Huh? Hime?
I saw Yuki-chan, though...
A puppy? Nope, haven't seen one.
Ren?
A small ninja wolf about this big.
He looks like a puppy.
HEY!
She was in a hurry.
I called her but she didn't notice me and kept going.
Oh no...
I asked her to wait
Hime went to look, too!?
I need to look for Hime!!
TURN
Hey Kagetora
Lost!?
If I stay outside, I'll get lost.
Whoa, it's getting worse.
WHOOOH!
!

Ren-chan!
Where are you?
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
Woof!
WOOF
WOOF
!
Ren-chan!?
TURN
DASH
DASH
DASH

I was worried!
I'm glad I found you!
Ren-chan! I knew it was you!
Woof
Woof
SQUEEZE!
Um...
Kagetora's worried, too.
Okay, let's go home.
WHOOOH!
Where are we?
Hmm...
Oh... don't worry.
If we get to the main street, we can figure it out.
Okay?
Whimper...
It's dark and I can't tell.
I think I'm a little lost...

ヒュオォォ
WHOOOH
Let's go this way!
Oh! Ren-chan!
JUMP
Hmm... we're someplace I've never seen before.
Kyah!!
FALL
What should I do...?
Urgh...
It's cold.

Whimper...
I get lost...I fall in the snow...
Why am I like this?
You're cold too, right?
LICK
I'm sorry...
SQUEEZE
Ren-chan...
TUG
TUG
TUG

WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
Ren-chan?
TWITCH
Thanks.
Kagetora?
Ren?
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
BITE
Hime!
Are you okay?
PHEW
Ren... I guess you're okay, too...
HANG

Kagetora?
Phew...
I'm okay.
I just got a little lost.
Are you hurt or anything?
That's why I asked you to wait...
Then I wouldn't have gotten lost and Ren-chan could've gone home sooner.
I... should've listened to you.
I'm sorry.
SRD

Hime.
You don't have to apologize.
I was just worried...
...that you would get hurt or lost.
I can't get mad about that.
You went to go look for Ren because you care about him.
Huh?
I'm not mad or anything.
I'm sorry I caused trouble.
.....
FLAP
Hime.

Huh...
I'm glad you're okay...

Yeah...
Ren.
Come, Ren-chan.
WOOF!
Or else we'll catch a cold.
Yeah.
Okay, then. We should go home.
がぶり
BITE.
Why do you keep biting me?
Don't bite, Ren-chan.
.....
Good job.
Thanks to you, I found Hime.

Ahhh...
SPLASH
Come over here
You were cold too, right?
PIT
PAT
START
Giggle
Phew
It feels so good...

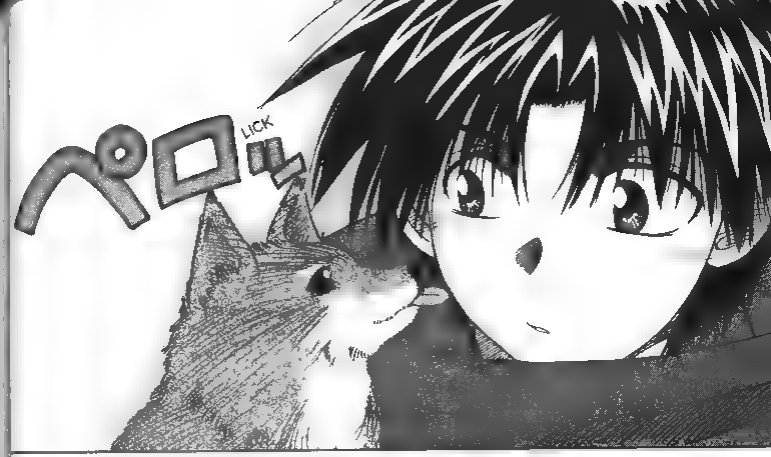
It's not scary.
ひょい
Okay, take a dip.
ちゃぽ
DIP
Does it feel good?
Giggle
Whimper
Don't catch a cold.
SPLASH
You're done already?
SHAKE
SHAKE

Hey, Ren-chan.
.....
Aren't you glad?
I mean, that Kagetora came...?
He's so reliable...
.....

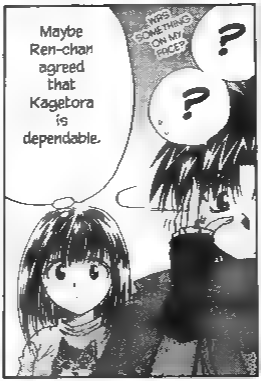
Right?
Don't you think so, too?
Hee hee hee.
Woof!
He always comes when I'm in trouble.
It's amazing.
?
Maybe someone is talking about me...
SNIFFLE
Ah.
...choo!
Really?
REN IS TAKING A BATH WITH HIME
FLIP
With Hime...
JEALOUS
Wha... what are you saying?
AREN'T YOU JEALOUS?
FLIP
THUMP
That's true.
IT'LL BE STUPID OF YOU IF YOU CATCH A COLD.
KYE
I'll take a bath after I'm done shoveling the snow.

CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
Kosuke!
TAKE THAT BACK
KYE!
YOU'RE STILL JEALOUS.
Oh... Ren-chan... you're going home...
Thanks for taking care of Ren.
My duty went well, too.
.....
He didn't get chummy with me at all.
It looks like Ren got chummy with Hime.
Ren-chan.

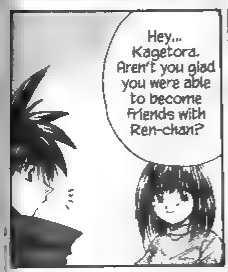
Be good, okay?
SNIFF
If he were just a puppy I would leave him here.
.....
Oh... you got attached, huh?
Hime...
If you want to bite me, you can.
I'M USED TO IT NOW.
じっ
STARE
.....
You become a good ninja wolf.
Ren...


ペロッ
LICK

Thank you, Ren-chan.
SMILE
Woof!


Maybe Ren-chan agreed that Kagetora is dependable.
WAS SOMETHING ON MY FACE?
?
?

Huh!?


Hey... Kagetora. Aren't you glad you were able to become friends with Ren-chan?

See you, Kagetora.
Yuki Hime, take care!
Woof!

...I was just being jealous...
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
That's... um...
Really? It looked like you didn't like him...
It's not like we were not friends.
Although he looked down on me.
Huh?
I can't hear you.
Oh, it's nothing!
He he.
Oh yeah, Hime!
Yeah!
Did you want to go see Ren sometime?
He should be okay now.
HEE HEE
Maybe when he doesn't have that habit of biting.

So you need to train hard to become useful to her.
She's the next master of the Toudou clan.
Ren.
Remember...
I have this feeling I forgot something...
I wonder what it is?
?
Hey, Ren.
Woof!
He did it again, huh?
Brother...
FORGOTTEN
WHIMPER
Nachi...

KAGETORA
Classic Martial Arts Dojo...
TOUDOU-
STYLE
CLASSIC
MARTIAL
ARTS
DOJO
...Toudou-style
Okay!
SMIRK
Looks like this is it.
TOUDOU-
Let's go!!

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

#22 Cool Guy

Yah!
Okay, that's good.
Let's end it here for today.
CLAP
CLAP
Tah!!
SWING
Thank you!
BOW
Today's practice went a bit long.
It's okay.
Naginata tomorrow, too?
RUSTLE
Hm, let's see...
Hime is really working hard...
She's cute but she has inner strength. You probably call someone like Hime a Yamato Nadeshiko...
Phew...
It's HOT.

It looks like someone's outside.
Maybe mom came over to watch?
Huh...?
カラ
SLIDE
Mom?
Practice is over...
Who are you?
A foreigner!?
きょとん
(CONFUSED)
TURN

Hime? What's wrong?
Um...
OH...
がばっ!
HUG!!
Yamato Nadeshiko!!
!?
You pervert!!
ゴゴゴ
WHACK
Kya...

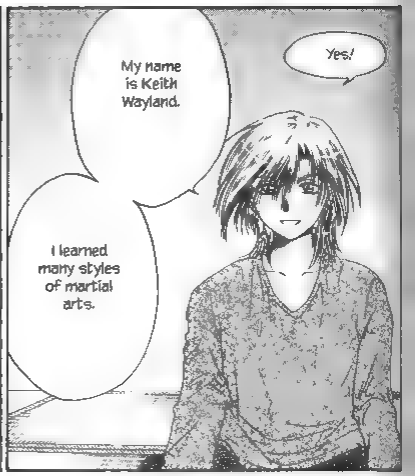
He's a tough one
Urgh
WAKE UP
I'm okay.
but I wonder who he is?
Are you okay!?
Don't lay a finger on Hime!!
How suspicious!!
GASP
He's a... foreigner!?
!!
STING
STING
Ouch... what are you doing?
STARE
STARE
It's just like a real ninja.
Whoa.
!?
TOUCH
TOUCH
Wow!
This is so well made!

I am Kagetora of Hoorai.
A real ninja!!
SHINK
If you take ninjas lightly...
Ack! Don't touch me!
Stop it!
TUG
Wow! How cool!!
A real ninja!?
Wow!?
You even say things like some historical play!!
I don't know you well enough for you to call me by my name.
Huh!?
Kagetora, huh? It really feels like a "Japanese" name.
Definitely a ninja!
WOW
INSTEAD

Just what I'd expect from a classic martial arts dojo.
A ninja and a Yamato Nadeshiko!
I'm so moved...
What is up with this guy?
Yes!
Something very important
Um... did you need something from us?
I came here to become a student.
Is the master of the dojo here?
A student!?
Huh!?

A student...

But I was told that I should come here...
...if I wanted to master the classic martial arts!


Yes!
My name is Keith Wayland.
I learned many styles of martial arts.

What!?
I don't know who you heard that from...
...but we're not currently accepting any new students.

I guess I can tell by the way he carries himself.
This foreigner...he does martial arts.
Hmm

Oh please...
I'll do anything. I beg you...
Please!
Kagetora-han, can you ask for me, too?
Why me!?
HUH?
DON'T WANT!!
I know. Did you want me to be your daughter's bodyguard!?
ZIP
I'm pretty reliable.
Umm...
You foreigner!!
I told you not to touch Hime!
WHACK!
And to ask to become Hime's bodyguard!?
What are you so mad about?

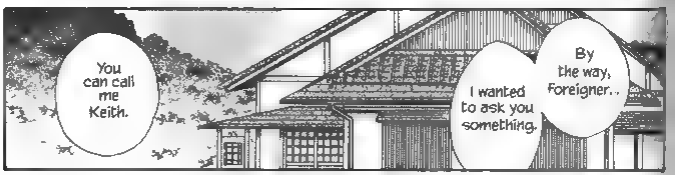
Yes!
GLARE
Duty?
That is my duty!!
That...
What the heck for!?
Then I can be your assistant.
GOOD IDEA!
Okay then.
.....
Why not? You'll have less to do.
I don't need any help!!
THIS IS FUN!
GUMOR
GUMOR

Master!?
Thank you!
Thank you, Kagetora-kun.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE HANDS

Let me think about it for a couple of days.
SWISH
Kagetora, please take care of him.

Thank you.
You're not only cute, you're nice, too.
I'm glad for you, Keith-san.
Miss.
TWITCH
...urgh...
Huh...?
You're really like a Yamato Nadeshiko.
Your outfit really becomes you.
He's a sweet talker
Let's go, foreigner!!
TUG
Oh... thank you...
BLUSH

He doesn't seem like a bad guy...
HMM.
Kagetora-kun, you're pretty strong.
DRRG
I don't like him!!
I'll see you later.
STOMP
DRRG
STOMP
DRRG


You can call me Keith.
I wanted to ask you something.
By the way, foreigner...

Then I saw an old Japanese movie.
I was lost. I didn't know what I wanted to do.
SERIOUS
What do you mean? The center of Japan is Kyoto.
So naturally I have to speak their dialect.
BLUNTLY
Why are you speaking in that fake-sounding dialect?
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
FAKE KYOTO DIALECT
Samurai?
And came to the conclusion that the strongest martial artists are the samurai.
I studied a lot about Japan.

It was about samurai.
It woke me up.
That was something I wanted to be.
I know that there are no more samurai, but...
...I know that people still have the spirit of the samurai.
I traveled all over. To fight against these people. To become stronger.
This guy Keith...
I thought he was an airhead but it looks like I was wrong.
Once I decided, I couldn't sit still.
HA HA HA.
So I really want to become a student here!!
I see. If that's the case, this is a good place to learn...
Right!?
HMM.
TWITCH
And there's a real ninja here, along with a cute Yamato Nadeshiko...

Her name was Yuki-chan, right? She's really cute.
You think so too, right?
This guy...
Did he fall in love with Hime...?
No...maybe not...
DRIP
DRIP
And... now that I look at him closely...
...he's pretty good-looking...
?
GASP
What... what if...
...Hime falls in love with him!?
SHE WAS BLUSHING EARLIER TOO
What am I going to do!?
Where are you going?
I got tired just thinking about it...
MOBBLE
SLIDE
I'm going to go take a bath.
Bath...
What's wrong, Kagetora-kun?
Oh...it's nothing.

I guess he means well.
But I can't concentrate with him around...
What a weird guy...
Phew...
Oh... thank you...
You're really like a Yamato Nadeshiko.
Your outfit really becomes you.
HUH?
Kagetora?
SPLASH
THUMP
Hi-Hime!?
OH.
I knew it.
If I...
If I were comfortable saying things like that, I would...
URGH.

You're taking a bath too.
ちゃぷ！
SPLASH
You always need to bathe after a practice session.
That's... true...
Um, Hime... were you listening to what I just said?
Huh? What did you say?
No...
It's nothing.
She didn't hear it.
PHEW

THE THUMP
Funny...?
Don't you think?
Keith-san...he's so funny.
Are you alone?
The foreigner is in the Hanare.
Where's Keith-san?
Yeah...
Because he looks like a model or something, but...
...when he talks, it's not what you think.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
Um, I have a question...
What is it?
Oh...
Um what do you think...
...about Keith's looks?

His looks?
Um, because you said that he looks like a model.
Ha ha.
What am I saying...? I'm making no sense.
RUFFLE
Um...I mean... forget it.
SPLASH
Um...
RUFFLE
I do think he is good-looking.
Well...
Um...

I knew it! Hime likes those kinds of guys!!
.....
Kagetora? So was that your question?
Uh, yeah... sorry for bothering you.
It's okay.
If he becomes a student... that means he's going to be around more.
And then he's going to become closer to Hime...
Oh...
I should get out soon.
I wonder what that was all about?
Maybe I should ask him later
Arrrggh! , don't want that!
Soap... towel...
Okay, I got everything!
I'm going to be here for a while.
I should at least try to help a little.

SLIDE
Kagetora-kun, I'll wash your back for you.
Since I'll be bothering you for a while.
What?
Huh...
SIT
Kya-aaa-aaa-aa!!

ZIP
Hime!
What happened!?
SPLASH
Shoot, I came into the wrong one.
FUMBLE
Kagetora...
Oh. Kagetora-han.
CATCH
CLAP
SWING
What should I do? I can't stop them.
I can't get out...
Kagetora-han, it was an accident!!
URGH
Just shut up and die.
Okay?

Master.
Toudou-dono...
You two! Stop!
SLIDE
Don't worry, I'll let you continue.
Here, go ahead.
So you mean this is my entrance exam?
Wayland-san, this is your chance to show what you can do.
You can fight here.
We have weapons, too.

Yes, ma'am.
This is an order. Don't hold back.
Kagetora, is that okay with you?
Well, I guess so.
But... I'm not Toudou-style...
But... if I don't hold back...
He might get hurt...
Kagetora-han, you don't have to take it easy on me.
I'm also a martial artist.
Hmm. Okay
His aura is different...
I will also not hold back.
Let's begin.
チャキ
CLINK

Are they going to be okay?
What if they get hurt?
Oh my.. they are so serious.
This will be interesting.
Let's just leave it to them.
This is a fight you won't want to miss.
Then...
Okay, both of you are ready.
Kagetora, ninja of Hoorai, sworn to the Toudou family...
ZWISH
...ready to fight!
Start!!
DASH

CLANG
CLANK
TAP

Wow, you are strong.
That's to be expected from a ninja.
WHOOSH
WHACK
You're not so bad yourself.
It looks like you weren't kidding about your abilities.
That's why I told you...
I can be a good bodyguard.
I know, now about this? If I win...
Make me her bodyguard.
That sounds fine.
!!
Hunh?
URGH

Whoa!?
CLACK
CLACK
SHK
I will not allow that!!
You got tougher all of a sudden.
I can't lose!
But I can't give up. I need to become a student!
SWING
Whoa.
SLAP

Gotcha!
Kagetora!
ZIP
CRACK
Whoa...

That duty...
The ninja who protects Hime needs to be stronger than anyone.
No!!
GRRRIP
You're pretty tough.
Can't you just let me win?
I cannot lose it at any cost!!
...is the only thing that connects me and Hime.
SPAK
!
.....

Dang...
CATCH
.....
I've never seen...
...Kagetora fight like that before...
WOW...
Hold it right there!!
This will never end.
True...
CLINK
I'm sure he could never fight like that against you.
That's his true strength.
SPARK

!?
SWISH!
Aaagh!
Mom!?
FLAP
TUG
OH
BONK
!!

Keith Wayland.
Yes?
TMP
Mom!
What are you doing?
OUCH
STING
PHEW
You two need more training.
Sigh
I allow you to join the Toudou-style classic martial arts dojo.
Really!?
Thank you very much!!
What!?
I found out while fighting Kagetora-han...
But...
...I'll decline for now.
...that I'm not strong enough to be a student here.
I'll come back when I get stronger.
BOW

That's fine. To know your weakness is also important.
It was a fine battle.
Come back when you feel like you deserve it.
Yes!
TMP
TMP
Kagetora.
You did well, too.
Maybe she knew?
Master...
Thanks, Kagetora-han!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
It was a very good fight.
But...it was a total loss.
I fought with all my strength but you were holding back.
I have more respect for ninjas now.
I lose!
He knew, too.
Oops.

Oh.
Yeah.
I'll give up on the bodyguard thing.
So don't worry.
WHISPER
I can't pursue it after knowing how you feel.
Next time... I hope you'll take it seriously.
SMIRK
I'll be stronger too.
You must really care for Yuki-chan.
BLUSH
!
Yeah, we're fine.
THUMP THUMP
Are you two okay?
HEH HEH
SMIRK
It was a busy day...
Yeah.
But it was fun.
See you later!
I'm going to fight all the martial artists in Japan.
And come back much stronger!
Okay... I'm heading north.

I got to see a very cool fighter...
TH-THUMP
!
Are you talking about Keith?
Keith-san was cool, but...
...a certain serious ninja was very cool, too.
Huh...
What were you guys talking about during the match?
OH...
couldn't hear it
Oh, um...
...it's nothing, really.
Ha ha.
STRETCH

京都
きょうと
Kyoto
新大阪
Shin-Omiya
We're finally here!
Kyoto.
Kyoto.
Hime is so excited.
She's been looking forward to this for days.
I wonder if everything's the same.
It's been years since I was last here.
わくわく
ANTICIPATION
KYOTO
Today...
Let's go, Kagetora!
TUG
Whoa
Class E, we're going.
BUZZ BUZZ
CH
GLANCE
Hm...
This is a big station.
This is Kyoto.

#23 From Kyoto with Love

It's my first time in Kyoto...
...but it's also my first field trip.
The only time I left my village was during training and when I had a duty.
I did study though.
That's a pretty weird environment.
Oh... I didn't know.
First time, huh?
Hmm.
What's the first time?
OH
No, it's nothing.
We should make this a fun trip!
um.. right
RIGHT?
She looks like she's having fun.
I guess field trips are a lot of fun.
Probably

I need to do everything I can...
...so that Hime can have fun!!
Hime is looking forward to this trip...
STARE
I'm happy that I was able to come with Hime...
But I can't get all that excited.
Kiyomizu Temple
Whoa.
Nice view. ♡
I'm going to work hard!!
Hime..
Oh, we can see the Otowa Falls.
See?
But I heard there are some people who actually jump off.
Seriously!?
Um, that's just a saying...
So people jump off from here.
See.
This is the Kiyomizu stage...
WOW

Whoa!?
JUMP
!!
Whoa.
SHO
DRAG
Someone jumped off
わあ BUZZ
わあ BUZZ
I saw it.
Oh. Probably there.
Kagetora!?
Where'd you come from!?
Are you okay?
GRAB
Yeah...
.....
Here, Hime.
Have fun.
Here you go.

Jishu Shrine
Now... Jishu Shrine means...
The Love Stones!!
JISHU SHRINE LOVE STONES
If you can get to the other stone blindfolded, your love will be realized.
I see.
If only my love for Hime would be realized...
Just kidding.
(IF I can do this, maybe I can get together with Yuki-chan. ♡
ピク TWITCH
GO THE FOR TOP
Okay, I'm going to give it a try.
キュッ TUG
A ROPE!?

Hey, look. The Love Stories. They're famous.
Oh. Yeah.
What are you doing, Kageto...?
I'm sort of... Sorry.
Ouch!
You want to try it?
I wonder if she believes in this, too.
Hmm, let me see.
Does... Hime have someone in mind!?
GASP
And what if her love is realized!?
That... wouldn't be good.
I don't know.
What's wrong with him?
PANIC
Um... Hime...
This?
TIMID!
Are you going to try it?
But...
...if that's what she wants, then I should support her!!
GLARE!

You've never been here, right?
Oh!
You should try it!
Huh!? Me?
Yeah!
SHAKE
If I succeed, I can...
I need to be focusing on my duty...
SHAKE
SHAKE
...What am I thinking?
Argh.
.....
I need to be thinking about my work.
Hmm.
No, it's okay.
Don't worry about me.
Heh heh.
HASTILY

San'nen Zaka (San'nei Zaka)
Yeah.
But it's probably just an urban legend.
...they say that if you fall here, you're going to die within three years.
Speaking of life expectancy...
OH?
He's not looking...
Really?
You know, hanging around you drastically lowers my life expectancy.
Where's Hime?
It was just a joke.
HA HA HA.
Kamijo!!
I almost fell.
Whoa!
Yah!
You can't fall?
Whoa...
WOBBLE
30
Look, Kagetora.
MOMIJI DAIFUKU
This looks just like Kosuke.
Oh.
Oh, there she is.

SWISH
WHOOSH
Hoorai style...
!
Art of the ninja, Whirlwind!!
Whoa!
WHOOSH
!
CATCH
Whoa...
WHOO
I'm glad you didn't fall.
Kagetora

Kage..
You can enjoy shopping.
Hun...
Oh. I'll carry your stuff.
LIFT
You don't care if we fail?
Sorry, I forgot.
That you were there
I knew this would happen.
Ha ha ha.
Was it within three years? Well, good luck.
If I die, I'm gonna come back and get you.
Hime...?
What's wrong, Yuki?
You look bothered.
Um.
.....

...I have a feeling that Hime is not too happy.
...it might be my imagination, but...
HMMM
KYOTO IKEDAYA HOTEL
MAYBE YOU'RE NOT WORKING HARD ENOUGH.
FLIP
UKI!
KYE!
You think so, too?
Hm. We have the day after tomorrow free...
Tomorrow is Movie Village.
Well...it's not on the "forbidden list."
That's just alcohol and cigarettes.
Normal people wouldn't think of bringing a monkey.
He brought his monkey...
I wonder if that's okay.

Okay! Tomorrow I will definitely work hard.
KYE!
Where can we go so Hime will have fun?
Day 2
Uzumasa Movie Village
NOTE: KAGETORA (IN COSPLAY)
Wow.
It's well made.
分銅屋

PERIOD DRAMA
COSPLAY
HOUSE
Yeah, I know.
Shinsengumi costume looks so good on him.
Kagetora is actually fitting in.
I can't believe it.
COSPLAYING
PERIOD DRAMA
COSPLAY
HOUSE
Sorry for making you wait.
Ta-dah.
♪

What's that, Kiritani? A Geisha?
How cute!!
You look powerful.
POWERFUL?
She looks so cute...
You chose the Shinsengumi uniform.
For cosplaying.
Oh. Kagetora.
You look better, Hime!!
You look good in a kimono.
Isn't this fun?
It's one of my favorite things to do. ♡
I guess so... Hime, you're a maiko?
Yeah.
Good... she looks happy today.
Okay.
Then let's go look around the village.
Thanks.
Hee hee.

Oh! Maiko-san!?
Beautiful!!
Please take a picture with me!
Me, too.
Me, too.
Urgh.
Oh..
Hey, leave her alone!
SWISH
Don't bother Hime!
Whoa, a ninja!?
Great!
BRAVO!

It's like pigeons gathering to eat popcorn.
Kagetora.
I know.
Oh. Foreigners like ninjas and stuff.
わら
CLAMOR
What!?
Ninja
CLAMOR
わら
Yuki we're going!
Hey, don't pull!
Okay let's go play.
Thanks, Kagetora.
Huh?
Kiraun
Ninja
Sigh...
IWISH

Hime
Kagetora
Finally got away...
What was that all about?
Did you get to see the village?
That's good.
Yeah.
Hey, Kagetora.
Are you getting to see things, too?
Oh.
Hime! It's almost time to turn in those clothes.
I'm worried that...
You took off your cosplay clothes...
Huh? Yeah, sort of We're going to many different places.
We should go...
That's not what I meant.
CLINK

Day 3
Free Day
Nanoniya Sirine
Geez.
TURN
Hime?
Huh!? Hime...
Let's split up from now on!
Why?
SHOCK

ちら
GLANCE
I guess this is my fault...
WEIRD DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM
This shrine is famous for match-making.
Really? Then I should buy a charm. ♡
I don't know at all!
But I don't know why Hime is acting this way...
しゅん
SAD
You're really into it, Kagetora.
ぱちーん
ぱちーん
I'm so desperate I want to ask the gods for help.
A match-making god, huh?

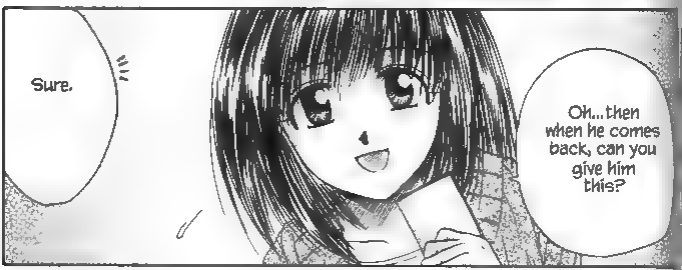
Er...
Ono, it's time to go.
Oh! Okay, let's go, Kagetora.
DRINK
DRINK
DRINK
IKEBAYA
Phew...
WO MEN

I didn't...
Maybe she had a fight with Kagetora?
HMM...
What's wrong with Yuki-chan?
She doesn't look too happy.
LOYAL TO DUTY
He'll do anything for Yuki-chan!!
I think that's so cute!
AHAHAHA
HA HA HA
YEAH.
CUTE!
Isn't Kazama-kun like a dog?
Yeah... like a loyal dog or a watch dog.
Yeah! I can see that.
A dog.
I don't want it to be that way!!
SPLASH

Aki-chan, I'll see you later, okay?
Yuki?
.....
SURPRISED
Oh!
I know!
What was that?
All of a sudden.
SLAM
Hmm...
I have no idea.
TMP TMP
.....
IRIS ROOM

どよ～～ん
GLOOM
We're going home tomorrow.
But Hime is still unhappy...
I don't want to go home like this...
But I don't know what to do.
SIGH
What's up with him?
He's so down...
It's the last night of our field trip.
I know.
We need to do some classic field trip things.
Like telling ghost stories!!
JUMP
He ran away!
Fast!!

Um, he went somewhere...
But he should be back soon.
He just ran away.
Huh? Yuki-chan?
What's up?
Um... is Kagetora here?
He must really hate ghosts...
Tell me about it.
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK


Sure.
Oh... then when he comes back, can you give him this?

From Yuki-chan.
From Hime?
I don't think he went far.
Where did he go?
Kagetora, I have a note for you.
PEEK
Are you guys done?
with the ghost stories...
Oh, he's back.

Okay! We'll split into teams.
Then how about a pillow fight?
RUSTLE
.....
COOL
Kagetora, you're on my team.
Pillow Fight.
Huh?
He went somewhere again.
八坂神社

I think this is the right place...
I'll be waiting at the Yasaka Shrine.
-Yuki
Hime
Where are you?
Hime...
!

Kagetora

!
Hime... what did you need from me?
Is it because I wasn't doing my job?
Oh
Kagetora
What do you think of this place?
Huh?
This... place?

It represents the history of Kyoto...
And it's very beautiful...
Really? You think so!?
GRAB
Huh!?
Uh, yes!
Are you happy you saw the cherry blossoms!?
Of course...
Um... Hime?
.....

SMILE
That's good!
TH-THUMP
Huh?

But you kept taking care of me.
I wanted you to have fun here.
It's your field trip, too.
I'm so sorry.
Hime!
GIT
Hime was worried about me...
...and that's why she was acting funny...
I thought you'd enjoy this place.
So...
I know.
Yeah.
And... So..
I...I was only thinking about how I wanted you to have fun.

Hime...
That's how I know!
Hee hee.
Because I was thinking the same thing, too.
Huh?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I...have something I wanted to give you.
Oh!
Yeah.
RING

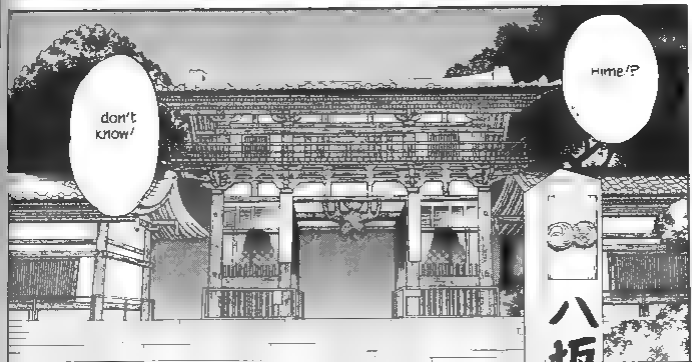
It's a "Bell of Fortune."
I got it so you can always be happy.
This...
...is from the shrine.
RING
Thanks.
I'll treasure it.
SQUEEZE
The field trip is over tomorrow.
That's true.
I'm glad you like it.

I am looking at the temples and stuff.
There's no point if you're not having fun!
I don't mean just going around.
I have been, Hime.
It's a group tour
So you have to have fun and look around, okay?
It's the last day
Ur...
That's true
Yeah, but...
Remember when you jumped off the Kiyomizu Stage to help me?
SWISH
Huh?
Was I looking forward to this?
Yes.
Weren't you?
Bluntly
I thought that you really like field trips, so...
Um, yeah...
It's because you were looking forward to this.
?
Oh...
That's because...
Turn

I was looking forward to it...
...because it was with you...

Hime... what did you say?
It's nothing.
TMP
TMP

Huh!?
TH-THUMP


Hime!?
don't know!
八坂

Kagetora, I got tickets to a movie.
Do you want to go tomorrow?
It's the last day.
!?
WHACK
Doesn't it? It's a period piece, so I think you'll like it.
A movie?
That sounds fun.
FLOP
FLOP
Then tomorrow...
He's holding something.
NOD
Kagura!?
What are you doing?
Emergency?
ALONE?
There is an emergency. Please come to the village alone
Kagetora
FLAP
Kagetora There is an emergency. Please come to the village alone.
Taka
Taka

KAGETORA
カゲトラ
#24 Butterfly
Memories

Huh?
A wedding!?
Hoorai Village
Kazama house
You could've just gone with Brother Shirou.
Oh... you said it was an emergency, so I cancelled my plans.
That's not enough of a reason to ask the next master of the Toudou house to come.
It's a family thing.
Yeah. That's why I told you to come alone.
Plans, huh? It was probably just to go out with Hime-sama.
I wanted to go see that movie with Hime...
みょーん
PINCH
AGAGA
Who ->ow<- is ->ow<- it?
Don't you have manners? This is someone who took care of you when you were younger.
I'm right, aren't I?
Ur...
SIGH

It's Hotaru-dono.
Huh?
Hotaru-nee?
Yes, your teacher's beloved granddaughter.
You remember, right?
So get ready.
SLIDE
.....
arriage...
Hotaru-nee...
FLOAT

Four years ago
Ryuga Valley
Ho ho.
You're still weak, Kagetora.
THUNK!
Ouch!
Sensei, you mean?
WHACK!
I HEARD THAT!
Sensei... How'd you hear it?
Ow...
Damn geezer.
You need to think more.
You can't just attack blindly.
OW!

You need to understand.
The art of the ninja is about using your spirit, mind, and techniques. And...
Hey! Are you listening?
.....
NMG
NMG
Ha ha ha ha.
RUSTLE
Grandpa's lectures are long.
You're going into the mountains again?
RUSTLE
You're the only one who's willing to learn from Grandpa.
He's so strict.
Hotaru-nee.

RUFFLE
RUFFLE
Good boy.
Don't...
...treat me like a kid!
You're training hard, I see.
TMP
It's only five years!
You're five years younger than me.
You are a kid.
Hime?
TURN
I'll be happy if I get the duty with Hime!
When you were wearing diapers, I was already training.
And now I'm already working.
Are you jealous?
What!?
Seriously?
I heard that duty was already filled.
TURN

Ha ha ha.
See? You get mad easily.
Hotaru-nee!!
FLAP
JUST KIDDING ♡
That's why you're still a kid.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
...since she was Ryugen-sensei's granddaughter.
Hotaru-nee was strong...
.....
Every time I went to my teacher's place,
...she used to tease me.
Kagetora,
re ing in te rfa! day?

Don't bother me, Hotaru-nee. I need to concentrate!
Yeah, yeah.
THWING
♪
ACK
HA HA HA. Gotcha again. ♡
Hotaru-nee!!
Whoa...
WOBBLE
KYA...
Whoa!?
SPLAAASH

It's your fault...
Ow I feel soaked.
Ow
need to take this off
!!
A kid shouldn't be talking like that
Geez.
I can't believe you're older than me.
What?
You're such a klutz.

I'll treat you like an adult then.
I'm telling you not to treat me like a kid!!
Ha ha ha.
Then hurry up and grow up.
ばん
I used to try to prove myself so Hotaru-nee would approve of me.
LET'S SEE Try beating Grandpa.
urgh
How am I going to grow up faster?
When I was younger, I hated it when people treated me like a kid.
She's never going to treat me like an adult... Sigh.
But now she's getting married...

She's now... 21? No, 22..
.....
I haven't seen her ever since she left the village to work.
I can't imagine it.
Now that I think about it..
...she wasn't really that much of an adult
If she was 18 or so.
I'm around that age now
WAKE UP
Hotaru-nee seemed so much older than me...
But still...
A little.
Weren't you surprised?
She's getting married.
Hotaru really wanted you to come.
Brother
SLIDE
Hey, Kagetora, what are you doing?
Making faces.

She wanted to see you doing your duty.
Huh...
Hotaru-nee...
Maybe she remembered our promise?
I see.
You got better.
Ryugen-sensei's food is inedible.
OF course. I'm cooking every day.
You real y improved, Kagetora.
Yeah. It's good.
I like how this one tastes.
Mmmm.
You're talking like Grandpa now.
Sigh...
I know. But it's fine.
STARE
Wha... what is it?
Hotaru-nee?
.....

One day, I'll have to talk to my master.
And I'll need to know the proper way to speak so I won't be rude.
Your dream duty, huh?
Hmmm
So if you don't get that duty, this will all be a waste. Right?
I can get it!!
I'm training just for that.
I'm going to get strong and become Hime's ninja on duty!!
I see
Then you should be able to get out of this one.
If you're going to be that strong.
GRAB
A surprise attack is not fair!!
You always need to be on alert
Oh, you're inside are at it again!

Well, it'll be amazing if you make it.
If I do ..
...then you stop treating me like a kid.
Okay.
LET GO.
I'll even support you by helping you train.
But I'm going to the valley tomorrow.
That area is too dangerous for girls.
I see.
I'm finally strong enough to go there.
I think it'll be tough for you.
Whoa.
BANG
But I'm still better at illusions.
SIT

TMP
TMP
Come on, Kagetora.
This is training!
Art of the ninja, Butterfly Dance!!
WHIRRRR

Hoorai-style...
Art of the ninja, Fire Dragon!
ROAR!
FWOOSH
Huh?
Hotaru-nee?
WOOSH
WOOSH
I'm going to sneak up behind him and scare him.
SNEAK
SLIP

Hotaru-nee!
SKID
SKID
WHUMP
OOPS...
SKIIIIIID
DROOP
.....
Ow...
Are you okay?
um... maybe.
That was quite a fall.
I guess it's not too much to climb.
You think you can make it?
SSH
I'm okay...

Hmm ..
Ow!
I don't think you can climb with this foot.
I think I sprained it.
Your foot?
DRIP
DRIP
If I rest for one night... it should be fine
You can go ahead on your own.
I can stay here alone.
Okay?
.....
POUR
Rain..

...POUR...
It's nighttime...
.....
Sigh... this sucks.
I told you...
It's too tough for you.
It sucks to be a girl.
No matter how hard we train, we can't be as strong as men.
Huh? Is she really depressed!?
SIGH
.....

But... Hotaru-nee, you're really good at illusions!!
Kagetora..
Thanks.
Why is my heart beating so fast!?
I don't get it...
?
?
Look, it stopped raining.
Why don't you go on ahead?
Oh
TH-THUMP

I can't...
...leave you here alone.
...I see.
You are acting like a man.
RUFFLE
Kagetora.
You'll be a great ninja.

Hotaru-nee, if you act more lady-like..
..you'll find someone who's willing to marry you.
TURN
BLUSH
BONK
No worries, I'm going to become a great woman.
STING
.....
A great woman wouldn't hit people like this.
Ow.
I guess I can't treat you like a kid anymore.
Huh?
What?
Hotaru-nee?
SWEAT

I'm sure you'll get your duty...
...and serve as Hime's ninja.

Good luck.
77 FLOAT
Kagetora.

And when you do, make sure to come see me.
I want to see my little brother all grown up.
Okay? Promise!
Brother
Or are you not sure?
Of...
...of course I'm sure!
Just wait.
I'm going to get that duty for sure!
HA HA. I'm looking forward to it!
Now that I think about it...
...the reason didn't I be being treated like a kid..

...was probably because it was Hotaru-nee...
Maybe that was...
...my first love...
First what?
Whoa!!
Brother Taka!?
What are you doing?
It's almost time. Are you ready?
Almost.
You're a high evel ninja of the Kazama household. You need to act like one.
Don't bring shame to our name.
DASH
NAG
NAG
SLIDE

Kagetora!!
Hotaru-nee!

You came!
She's so pretty...
I, Hoorai ninja Kagetora Kazama...
...came to wish you...
...happiness and well-being in your marriage.
Oh.
Gasp
Kotaru-dono!!
ZWISH!

PAT!
GIGGLE
.....
You've become quite a man.
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
That's to be expected from a ninja on the Toudou duty.
You kept your promise.
Good job!

You look pretty...
STING
STING
You just have to say I look pretty.
BONK
Fine clothes make the man...
Oh... um...
Uh...
He said he wants to train you again.
Grandpa didn't change either.
You haven't changed at all.
Really?
How's your duty?
.....
I heard she's very cute.
SHRIEK
But I'm working hard.
And I'll continue to do so, for Hime.
I'm still not good enough...
Yeah...

I guess...
...she's a good girl.
...that's not the reason I'm working hard...
Huh!?
Uh, yeah, she's cute, but...
He's so transparent.
わた
SHAKE
わた
SHAKE
Um, so...
MUMBLE MUMBLE
もじ もじ
A man becomes great...
...with a good woman by his side.
How did you know?
You're not number one, but...
That's why my husband is the best.
Because I'm a good woman. ♡

...you're definitely my second.
Ufu
Thank you for coming, Kagetora.
Oops, I was in the middle of something.
Hotaru-san.
Yes? I'm coming.
Hotaru-dono...
An illusion?
Huh?
Flap

!
WHOOSH
Hotaru-nee!
Congratulations!!

...Thanks.
Thanks, Kagetora!
That was a good wedding.
Wow...
...she looked really pretty...

GIGGLE
You're so cute!
She's pretty.
Um, no...
...that's...
あれ
あわ
Kagetora! What are you looking at?
Pictures?
Hime!?
I found a funny picture so I'm sending it.
-Taka
This is your mom, right?
She's pretty.
Huh?
Why is this here?
HE LOST
What's that other one?
This? It's nothing!!
Huh!?
Um, yeah, that's the picture.
Ha ha.
Wasn't this the picture you were looking at?

KAGETORA
カゲトラ
#25 The Person I Love the Most

No problems here.
Okay.
KYE...
And this house is so big, who knows...
We should be cautious.
It's been pretty dangerous lately.
"IT'S GOOD OF YOU TO PATROL.
KYE.
RUM?
KAGETORA, OVER THERE!!
WHERE
WHERE
KYE!?
TA-DAH!
!?
GLANCE
GLANCE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

He's heading for the main house!?
Oh, no!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
SICKOP
KYEP
How suspicious!!
Hoorai-style art of the ninja, Spider Webs!!
WHIP
Whoa!?
WHOOSH
Kagetora.
...what should I do with him?
Now...
Maybe ask him some questions?
GLURG
GLURG
SPLASH

What was that sound?
I heard a splash.
TMP
TMP
Hime.
I caught someone lurking.
Huh?
lurking!?
GURG
GURG
He's in the lake?
I think he'll come up soon.
Hime!
SPLASH
Oh. There he is.
Phew.
Oh.
Huh...

WHAT!?
Hi, Yuki.
Long time no see.
Daddy!?
Hime's father!?
Oh no...
Ah.
...choo!
Are you okay, Daddy?

I'm okay.
It wasn't that cold.
Ah...
SPLASH
ばしゃっ
...choo!
Oh.
You're not okay at all
Hot hot hot!
It's my fault!!
I'm very sorry!!
BOW
ぶぁっ
You're the ninja who...
Um...
...I can't apologize enough.
I didn't realize you were Hime's father...
DRIP
DRIP
だら
だら

Oh!
CLAP
I am Kagetora of Hoorai...
...I'm sorry.
SWISH
Who?
GASP
You're Yuki's martial arts instructor.
I've heard about you.
Thank you for taking care of Yuki.
Ha ha.
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT
Is he not mad?
Um.. aren't you going to scold me?
No, no. It was my fault.
Walking around looking like that wasn't a good idea.
Why did you come that way?
It's your home.
Well...
It was a little hard to go through the front.
I felt guilty for leaving the house for two years.

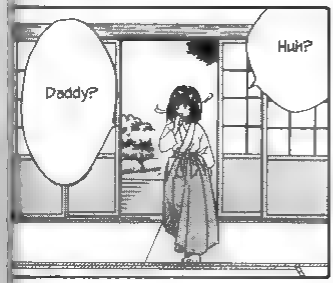
Why was your father gone for so long?
Huh?
Didn't we tell you?
Daddy's an archaeologist.
He goes on digs all around the world.
I see.
For two years.
I'm surprised that the Toudou family's father is a scholar.
Kagetora-kun.
Archaeology is a man's dream!!
Dream?
GRAB
Ancient Egypt... The Mayans... Aztecs... Incans...
Dinosaurs, ammonites...
Just thinking about it gets you excited!!
DINOSAURS?
I guess he digs up just about anything...

Oh...
SAD
Daddy.
Are you going to stay long this time? You were gone for two years.
No...I only stopped by between jobs.
I can only stay for two or three days.
I brought something home for you!
Oh, yeah!
.....
AAaaaA-AAAA-AGGGH-HHH!
Worm!!
No, Yuki, this is a...
HATES INSECTS
LOOKS LIKE A WORM
This is a fossil of a Polyptychoceras!!
I just dug it up.
A POLYPTYCHOCERAS IS A MOLLUSK.
BIG

Saya-san.
Honey!
Did you bring home something weird again?
SLIDE
Oh.
SNATCH
I'm confiscating it!
But...
It's not a worm.
Yuki, it's only a worm. Don't fuss about it.
What?
Um, nothing...
Ha ha ha.
Yuki, we're starting practice soon.
Yes.
Hurry up and go to the hall.
SLIDE

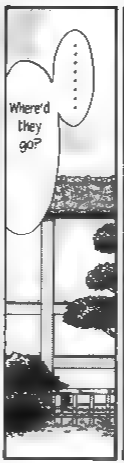
I thought she'd like it.
I guess I messed up again.
Oops.
SCRATCH
ZIP
SCRATCH
I don't know how to comfort him...
Father...
You've been working here for almost two years, right!?
ZIP
!?
Kagetora-kun!
!
...can you come with me?
Then...
Okay...
Yes, sir...
RUFFLE

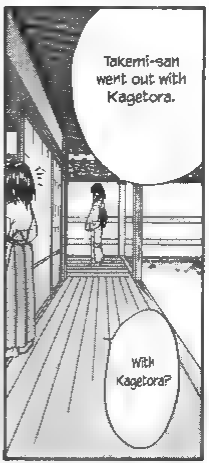
Yes?


Huh?
Daddy?

SLIDE

It's been two years...


.....
Where'd they go?


Takemi-san went out with Kagetora.
With Kagetora?

GINZA
Renoir
Stupid Daddy...
You can call me by my name. It's Takemi.
Master's husband.
HA HA
You don't have to call me that.
Um, Father...
You think?
I think we're really out of place here...
IT'S A LITTLE EMBARRASSING
Then Takemi-dono...
BUZZ
BUZZ
What is it?
WOW, KYOKO!

I wonder where he got this magazine.
I found this store in this magazine.
HE'S WEIRD...
I think you'll find something that Hime would like in this kind of store, but...
I'm not good at this sort of thing.
Come on, let's look for something.
Right!?
BROUGHT YOU FOR A PERSON...
I can help, but...
GLANCE
OH, THIS IS WELL MADE
I hear that daughters are special in their father's eyes...
STARE
Hmmm
I'm a little nervous because this is Hime's father...
I wonder if he would get mad if someone asked for his daughter's hand in marriage.
Marriage...
DAYDREAMING

... What am I thinking?
Kagetora-kun? Are you okay?
BLUSH
Ack!
I'm sorry!
TH-THUMP
For what?
SURPRISED
Scared me...
TH-THUMP
Oh!
Kagetora-kun! How about this?
What is it?
Cloth?
A pretty lace handkerchief!
!!
FLAP
BLECH!
WRONG
Takemi-dono!
That is not a handkerchief!!
あわわわ
PANTIES

Seriously?
Should we call security?
BUZZ
No, it's a misunderstanding!!
Ew
Pervert!?
GASP!
BUZZZ
Huh?
Not a handkerchief?

Yah!
SHOCK!!
BOMB
Kyah!
What!?
Noo-ooo-oo-o!!
Security...
BEEP BEEP BEEP

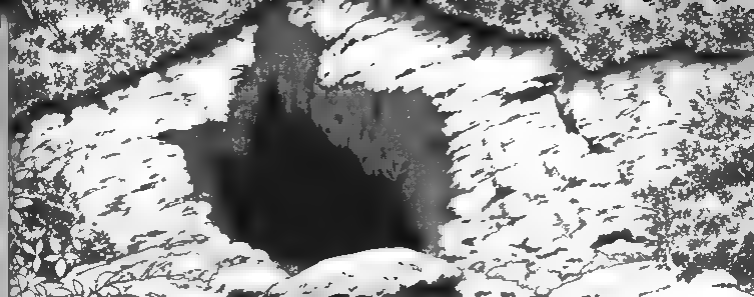
DAAAAASSH
WHOA
Cough cough
SMOKE
もう
!?
What's this?
SMOKE

Takemi-dono...
...Yuki and Saya-san would get mad.
If that happened...
We were about to be reported.
Ha ha ha.
That's right...
Phew.
PANT
PANT

Oh.
No, it's not your fault.
Sorry I wasn't any help.
BOW
...I couldn't buy anything.
But gee...
Hmm...
I know this place.
I came here with Yuki a long time ago...
Daddy.
ぱたぱた
ぱたぱた
すてーん
Oh.
Are you all right?
Huh?
Yeah.
What's that in your hand?
I found something.
I'm going to make it my treasure.

See?
I know!!
Yeah.
A treasure? Can you show me what it is?
.....
Takemi-dono?
What's...
But... where are we going now?
I'M WORRIED...
I'm sorry, but I'm going to need you to come with me.
GASP!
Yes, sir!
Where are they?
.....

Kime.
DAAAAAAAAAAASH
Daddy.
Oh!
They're back.
DASH
DASH
DASH
Um...
We're going out again...
DAAAAAAAAAAASH
URRRGGGH
DASH
DASH
Fine!
don't care!
HMPH
Stupid Daddy and Kagetora.



Kagetora-kun, around there.

Can you start digging?

Right here?

Sorry to make you help.

No problem.

カン カン

I can't stand the silence...

I'm getting nervous.

...Kagetora-kun.

Y-yes?

Can you...

...tell me about Yuki?

I was gone two years...
Yeah...
...I want to know more.
Tell you about...
...Hime?
No... not yet.
Is Yuki able to swim?
We did go to the beach.
Did you guys go anywhere? Like the mountains or the beach...?
She got that from Saya-san.
She hates losing.
Yeah.
But she's practicing very hard.
see.
If she were more like Saya-san, it would've been okay...
Her lack of ability in sports comes from me.
OH.
I FEEL BAD FOR YUKI.

Really?
And Hime did a little bit of ninja training.
Oh, Hoorai? I've been there once, too.
It's a nice place.
We also went to my village.
Anything else?
TINK
TINK
TINK
TINK
We just went to Kyoto for our field trip...
I see. And?
.....
.....
TINK
TINK
No...I'm not doing anything.
Hime is always taking care of me.
Yuki's probably doing better because of you.
Probably.
That's a lot.
Yuki is an only child and she must've been lonely.
But she never complained and always saw me off cheerfully.
I'm never home because of my work, and Saya-san is also busy.
...No.
I'm glad you're here.

So I want her to be happy at least when I'm home.
Bye, Daddy! Take care!
Why not something else?
But why do you always bring a fossil?
I can feel his pain like it's my own...
SIGH
THE AMMONITE DIDN'T GO OVER WELL EITHER, IS...
But I always choose the wrong thing.
So I... wanted to share that feeling...
...with Yuki.
But that's when I think "I want to show this to Yuki, too."
...is when I'm happiest
When I discover something at work...
Hime is that kind of person!!
Um, I think Hime knows how you feel.
Takemi-dono...

Thank you, Kagetora-kun.
I think so, too.
She's my daughter and I'm proud of her.
SMILE
You think so too, right?
Yes!
Hime is the best girl in Japan!!
By the way, Kagetora-kun.
You... aren't dating Yuki, are you?
The way you talk about her
TIMIDLY
THUMP
THUMP
Wha...!
No, of course not!
I'm only a ninja serving her...
So I would never.
SHAKE
SHAKE

THUNK
I thought I was going to have a heart attack.
Ha ha ha ha ha ha.
Phew. I wouldn't know what to do...
...if you asked me for my daughter.
Takemi-dono!?
Whoa!
RUMBLE
CRACK
See?
The inside was hollow
Oh!
Are you hurt!?
DASH
I'm okay.
Ow.
!
Takemi-dono!!

Urrrr...
They're so late.
TICK TACK
SLIDE
Daddy?
I wonder where Yuki is.
TWITCH
Maybe her room?
What happened?
You guys are so dirty.
Oh, it's nothing.
DIRTY
We're back.
I'm home.
!?

What do you mean, "nothing!?"
You guys went out without saying anything.
She got this from Saya-san.
Daddy, I'm going to get mad!
Kagetora, you too!
Ha ha.
WHISPER
Me too!?
I was waiting!
SHOCK
You're leaving again soon, right?
I haven't seen you for two years...
I wanted to spend time with you.
Hold out your hand?
Like this?
Yeah.
Yuki...

コト
TAP
A crystal?
It's nice.
I went to the river we went to a long time ago.
I dug them up just like you.
So...
See? Isn't it pretty?
I remembered that you collected stones...
...this is my treasure.
...and you said:
Hee hee

So that's why Takemi-dono went to go look for it.
Oh...
I thought that you'd like...
...the crystal as well.
Daddy.
You...
...went to go dig this?
Hime.
Takemi-dono got that especially for you.
Um, I didn't do much.
Kagetora-kun helped me, too.
And I was right!
I thought there would be some there.
Daddy...
I think it's okay, but...
Did I make a mistake again!?
オロオロ
PANIC
.....
Huh?
Yuki?

I love you!
Thanks, Daddy.

I can't compete with her father.
HEE HEE
PHEW.
I'm glad you like it.
...to make Hime smile like that.
I could never do anything...
I'm glad you're here by Yuki's side.
COME COME
Kagetora-kun
I didn't do anything...
Thank you.

Takemi-dono...
Since I won't be back for a while.
Please continue to take care of her.

I will do my best to protect her!
Yes, sir!

You two finally came back.
And dirty, too.
ZWISH

What... what are you...?
But don't ask to take her, okay?
Just in case...
WHISPER
My heart would stop. Ha ha ha.
No, just in case...

Thank you.
Ha ha.
YOU'RE THE MAN!

A towel?
Here!
PLOP
As the Toudou son-in-law, I need you to be more proper.
They're the same!
It's not digging, it's excavating. .
Saya-san.
You're digging during off hours?
Please go wash up and relax.
I heated up the bath for you.
Huh? I thought she threw them away.
She'd never do that. They're from her favorite person in the world.
He's so weak around her.
I wonder if Hime's going to be like that
Yes, yes.
Mom keeps all of the things Daddy brings home.
?
I'll tell you something.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE

I would like Hime to say I'm her favorite, too...
Kagetora!
Takemi-dono is a fortunate man.
I see.
favorite, huh?
SQUEEZE

To be continued in volume XIX.

Bonus Page

This is **Segami**. It's already volume 5. This is to thank all of you readers. To express my gratitude, I will work hard to include more bonus pages. This time there are 4-panel comics, too.

o About Ninjas- Part 5
Actually, I haven't been going anywhere ninja related. I would like to go to Nikkou Edo Village.. When I'm taking pictures, the ninjas just pop in within the frame there. And that's part of the fun. *(laugh)*

o About Traveling
I talk about it in the 4 panel comic too, but I went to Hida! This time my main purpose was not Sarubobo. This time I went to eat Hida beef! It was really good. Lately I have a feeling that I'm traveling only to eat. Oh no. But I took my work!! I took many pictures that don't have me in them, too. which is sad, really

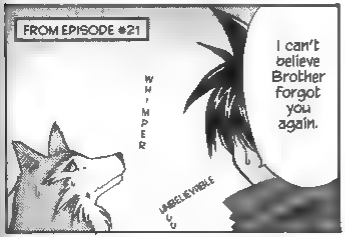
o About Weapons - Part 3
There's more. I won't make any excuses. this is my hobby!! Of course, I use them as reference, too.

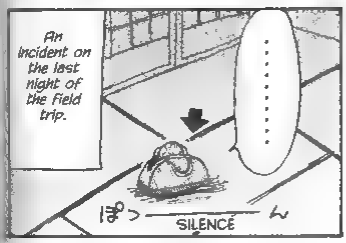
o Thanks
Thank you for all the letters. There are some with illustrations in them and I enjoy reading them. Please wait for a reply. (I always say this) I will reply!

o About Motorcycles
I want to buy one, but my editor stopped me. *(laugh)*

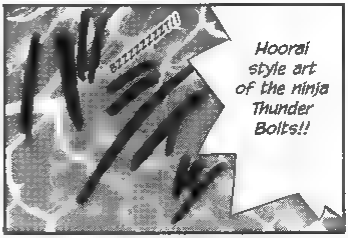
He thinks I'll definitely get into an accident. There's no trust.. .But I feel the same way

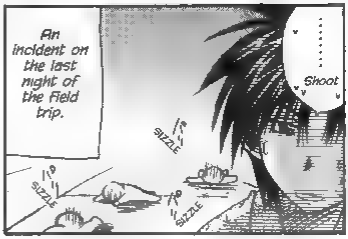
大同小異
Lost and Found

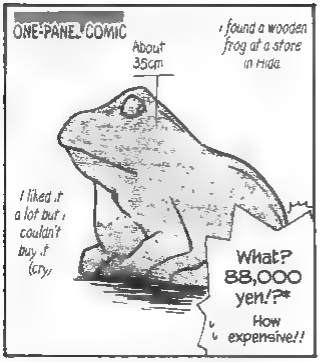




条件反射
Reflex






ONE-PANEL COMIC
About 35cm
I found a wooden frog at a store in Hida.
I liked it a lot but I couldn't buy it (cry)
What? 88,000 yen!?*
How expensive!!
*¥880.00
Why was it so expensive? I didn't get it...

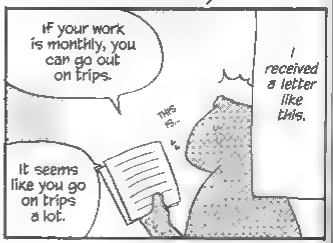
Special Thanks

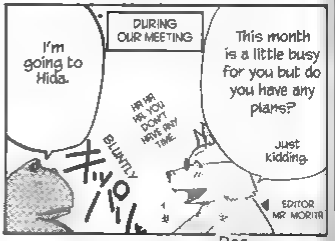
Assistants: Tanaka-kun, Oshima-chan

Editor: Mr. Morita

Comic Editor: Houdou-san

近況報告 Recently




I'm going to Hida.
DURING OUR MEETING
This month is a little busy for you but do you have any plans?
Just kidding.
HA HA HA YOU DON'T HAVE ANY TIME
BLUNTLY
EDITOR MR. MORITA

Dog

About the Author

Akira Segami's first manga was published by Shogakukan in 1996. He went on to do a few other small projects, including two short stories entitled "Kagetora" in 2001 and 2002. The character proved to be popular with fans, so Segami began his first ongoing series, Kagetora, with Kodansha in 2003. The series continues to run today.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Hakkouda, page 16

"Hakkouda Mountain" is a famous movie from 1977. It is about 199 soldiers dying in a snow storm. It is based on a true story from 1902. In the movie, there is a famous scene where the captain slaps his soldiers saying these exact words.

Sneezing, page 31

The Japanese have an idea that when you sneeze, someone is saying something about you. If you sneeze once, someone is saying something good; if you sneeze twice, someone is saying something bad. If you sneeze three times or more, it is just a cold.

Yamato Nadeshiko, page 39

Yamato Nadeshiko means a true or ideal Japanese woman, according to Japanese culture. Some of the desired characteristics include feminine, chaste, devoted, and willing to do anything for her husband.

Naginata, page 39

A *naginata* is a long-handled sword. It looks like a spear with a short sword at the tip of it. In modern Japan, it is usually a martial art for women.

-han, page 46

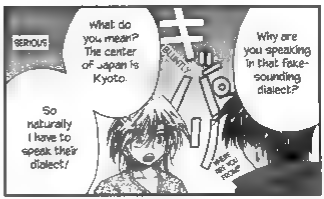
Adding "-han" instead of "-san" is a convention of those speaking with a Kansai (western region) accent. Not only would one add it to someone's name (i.e. Kagetora-han), they would replace it for onee-han (older sister) or okaa-san (mother) as well.

***Hanare*, page 48**

Hanare is a detached building, separate from the main building in classical Japanese homes. Usually farm machines and implements are kept inside of the *Hanare*. The Toudou family *Hanare* is where Kagetora lives.

Keith's accent, page 49

In the original Japanese, Keith's Japanese dialogue was written to have a western region accent, similar to how they speak in Kyoto. When translated into English, the nuances of this particular accent cannot be captured or replicated. A Kyoto accent is a little gentler than the more common Osaka accent. Geisha typically have a Kyoto accent.


SERIOUS
What do you mean? The center of Japan is Kyoto.
Why are you speaking in that fake-sounding dialect?
So naturally I have to speak their dialect!
FAKE KYOTO DIALECT

Kyoto, page 73

Kyoto is the former capital of Japan, located in the western region. It is a popular spot for field trips, mainly because of the many historical sites. There are many temples and shrines to visit.

Kiyomizu Temple, page 76

The Kiyomizu Temple is one of the most famous temples in Japan. There is a veranda called the Kiyomizu Stage, and there is a saying in Japanese, "Do it like you're jumping off the Kiyomizu Stage." This came from the fact that many people jumped off the Kiyomizu Stage hoping their wish would come true.

Otowa Falls, page 76

The Otowa Falls is a waterfall where three channels of water fall, and visitors can drink the water. This water is said to be very pure and the Japanese believed that it brought you good health and longevity.

San'nen Zaka (San'nei Zaka)
Speaking of life expectancy...
...they say that if you fall here, you're going to die within three years.
Yeah.
But it's probably just an urban legend.

San'nen Zaka, page 81

San'nen Zaka, also known as San'nei Zaka, literally translates to "three-year hill." Among the children in Kyoto, it is said that if you fall here, you will die within three years. Therefore, you hardly see children running around in this area. San'nen Zaka is very steep, and it is tiring to walk up this hill, especially in the summer.

Dharmas, page 81

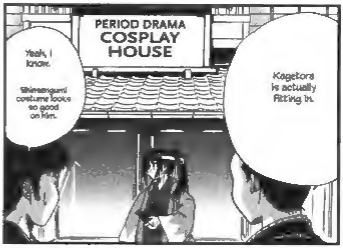
Yuki is holding a dharma that is shaped like a monkey. Usually dharmas are round and red with blank eyes. You fill in one eye to make a wish, and when that wish is fulfilled, you fill in the other eye. Other than the original red, round dharma, there are other shapes. One of the most famous ones is the "fortune-telling cats" typically found in a Japanese restaurant. These various dharmas are sold at all tourist spots, not just in Kyoto.

Uzumasa Movie Village, page 85

The Uzumasa Movie Village is a movie set open to the public. They usually film period dramas where people are slain with swords. Along with the cosplaying house Kagetora and Yuki visit, there is a haunted house and other events. Toei Studio, one of the biggest movie production studios in Japan, runs it.

Shinsengumi, page 86

The Shinsengumi are a band of warriors formed in the late shogunate period to protect the shogunate. Their uniform was an easily identifiable outfit with a jacket that had light blue and white zig zags.



Maiko, page 87

A maiko is an apprentice to a geisha. They are usually easy to distinguish by their tall shoes and ornate kimono. Only girls under the age of twenty can become a maiko, so usually they start their training in junior high or after they graduate junior high school.

Hara-kiri, page 89

Hara-kiri literally translates to "stomach cutting." It is a form of suicide in which men slashed their abdomen. A detailed ritual of a hara-kiri involved dressing ceremonially, sitting properly, and stabbing the short knife into the stomach. Usually a close friend then decapitated him.

Yasaka Shrine, page 99
Yasaka Shrine is also known as the Gion Shrine. The Gion Festival, one of the most famous festivals in Japan, is held there.

Hotaru-nee, page 112
Kagetora refers to Hotaru with the suffix of "-nee." This is a shortened version of "onee-chan," which means "older sister." Hotaru and Kagetora are not siblings, but Japanese kids tend to call the older people around them "older sis" or "older bro." It shows how close Kagetora and Hotaru were when he was in training When Kagetora and Hotaru meet each other again, Kagetora calls her "Hotaru-dono," indicating respect, but then toward the end returns to calling her "Hotaru-nee" to indicate affection.

Nikkou Edo Village, page 181
Located in Tochigi prefecture, the Nikkou Edo Village is an amusement park with samurai houses and ninja displays. There are performances by actors dressed up as ninjas in a house with trap doors and special effects.

Hida, page 181
Hida is located in the Gifu prefecture, north of Nagoya prefecture. The sarubobo Segami talks about is a charm famous in Hida. They are meant to bring good luck in marriage and childbirth. Hida is also famous for their Hida beef, which is equal in quality to Kobe beef.

SACRED DUTY

Ninja Kagetora takes his job as Yuki's martial arts instructor and bodyguard very seriously. So he must ignore his growing attraction to her or else risk dishonoring his entire ninja clan. Then Kagetora is challenged by another ninja admirer, who demands to be Yuki's protector. Just when Kagetora thinks he might lose Yuki completely, a visit with a childhood friend makes Kagetora wonder which of the girls he really loves. And the drama only intensifies when Yuki's dad returns—and gives Kagetora the ultimate test!

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